1782 Building for A Third Century of Service 1968

Jarvis Memorial Methodist Church

Keep The Spirit of Christ in Downtown Greenville

Jarvis Memorial Methodist Church

"WHERE CROSS THE CROWDED WAYS IN DOWNTOWN GREENVILLE"

Greenville, North Carolina 27834

JOYCE V. EARLY, D. D.
PASTOR

THOMAS E. LOFTIS, B. D.
ASSOCIATE PASTOR

April 10, 1968

Dear Members and Friends:

"The Church is of God and shall be preserved to the end of time for the conduct of worship and the due administration of His Word and Sacraments, the maintenance of Christian fellowship and discipline, the edification of believers, and the conversion of the world. All, of every age and station, stand in need of the means of grace which it alone supplies."

For 186 years Jarvis Memorial Methodist Church has ministered to the spiritual needs of generation after generation in Greenville. It has been a blessing and benediction to thousands of souls, who have entered its portals, had their faith lifted, and who have gone out to serve their Lord and Saviour. Eternity alone will be able to reveal the spiritual nurture administered here.

Many have been the sacrifices made by this congregation to provide adequate facilities for the work of God's Kingdom. Each generation has accepted the challenge to provide the best. Now we are being called upon to remodel and upgrade our Educational Buildings and provide air-conditioning. We are in a new day at Jarvis Memorial and as always our people will measure up to fulfill the dream they dared when they decided to stay in downtown Greenville.

With due appreciation for our glorious historic past, let all realize that the best years for Jarvis Church are yet to be, if we resolve to make them that. As pastor, I am calling upon our membership to join hands and hearts to make it so.

Faithfully yours,

J. V. Early

Joyce V. Early

Rev. Dr. J. V. Early
Pastor

Rev. Mr. Thomas Loftis
Associate Pastor

1782 - Our Program - 1968

...OUR NEED

To continue a record of Christian Service, extending through two centuries of Methodism in Greenville, we must dedicate ourselves anew to meeting the spiritual, educational, and fellowship needs of our community.

...OUR GOAL

To finish the third and final phase of reconstruction and expansion for the future, begun in 1950. This involves the total renovation of our educational building. Our program calls for the most complete and modern plant in this area. The cost – $350,000.

...OUR PLAN

Under the leadership of our crusade director, Dr. Thomas L. Williams of the Field Service of the Methodist Board of Missions, we will seek to obtain pledges to underwrite the $350,000 – from every family of our Jarvis Memorial membership – payable over the next 156 weeks (three years.)

During the same solicitation, pledges for the $100,00 operating budget for the year 1968-69, will be secured. This is the same as the current 1967-68 budget.

The combined campaign goal is $450,000 with two pledges sought from each member. One over a three year period will be credited toward the new educational building. (Goal: $350,000); the other pledge for only one year will cover the operating budget of the church ($100,000).

...OUR RESOURCES

The inspiration of countless dedicated souls of past years, our faith in God, and our trust in the future of Jarvis Memorial Methodist Church.

...OUR TASK

All members to work together in prayer, faith, dedication, and selfless service to God, in order to underwrite and share the cost of this most valuable step into the future. Let us always remember – all that we ever hope and pray to be will come through God and His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Educational Renovation

EDUCATIONAL RENOVATION IS FINAL STEP OF ORIGINAL THREE PHASE PROGRAM

As far back as 1950, church leaders recognized that our need for additional facilities was immediate. The first step toward providing improvement was the addition of a $180,000 Education Building Annex.

In 1957 the second step, our current sanctuary, was completed at a cost of $400,000.

The proposed educational building program will completely renovate the old church school area, built in 1907, and improve the 1952 annex. This is the third and final step.

WHY RENOVATION OF OUR EDUCATION BUILDING IS NECESSARY

(1) To keep step in a progressive community, modern facilities are essential to serve and reach adequately our membership and those people we must attract into the Jarvis Memorial membership.

(2) Three of our sister downtown churches have recently constructed new, modern suburban plants or are planning a new church. In addition, there are now two new suburban Methodist Churches. These facilities must be matched.

(3) Our church membership in 1952 was 1783. Currently it is 1443. Jarvis Memorial cannot stand still. We must move forward to maintain our position of service to our membership and to our community.

(4) A modern educational building will make possible many additional activities for all ages. We must have functional, efficient, and modern facilities, plus a warm and inviting atmosphere, especially for our youth and for prospective new church members.

(5) Church activities by the youth of America generally have declined for the past decade. This trend can and must be reversed.

(6) Nothing is more important than the church school program for our children. Guide a child in the right direction and he will grow into Christian adulthood to become the sustenance of this church in future years.

(7) Our able church school teachers will be able to do their best work in a building designed specifically for the needs of the church school.

(8) The renovated educational building is designed to permit incorporation of modern developments in church school education (audio-visual materials and techniques, etc.)

(9) Our children and grandchildren with each passing week are one week closer to adulthood. It is well known that basic character and personality are formed by the time a child is six; some maintain an earlier age. Our church school must not miss this opportunity.

(10) Newcomers to our community will be attracted to a church and our youth will remain in a church which has demonstrated its spiritual strength by providing adequate facilities and programs.

(11) Competition for the time, interest, and attention of our teen-age and college youth is exceedingly keen from a variety of activities. Our church school must meet this challenge.

(12) Fifteen years ago, our church school attendance average exceeded 500. In recent years it has dropped below 300. It now is approaching 400. We must maintain this growth momentum.

Specific Benefits

TO BE DERIVED FROM RENOVATING THE EDUCATIONAL BUILDING

(1) Enough standard classrooms well-located and adequate in size to make possible effective teaching. Addition of two new classrooms over present Hall of History.

(2) Eliminating distracting noises from room to room.

(3) Well-planned space for youth programs.

(4) Space allocated for weekday kindergarten.

(5) Revised Fellowship Hall for all meetings not suited to be held in the Sanctuary or Chapel. Our fellowship dinners and suppers have been valuable in promoting a warmer, closer relationship among our membership.

(6) New terrazzo floor and new cabinets for kitchen.

(7) Relocate office space for the church staff for greater efficiency of operation.

(8) Improvement in space arrangement for pastoral counseling.

(9) Inclusion of area to be used by Boy Scouts and facilities for other church-sponsored organizations.

(10) Present office space will be new narthex between educational building and sanctuary providing for a better traffic flow. Also will be used for new Hall of History.

(11) Provision for modern classrooms and well-lighted hallways.

(12) Zoned air conditioning. This will provide for a fuller use of our educational facilities , especially during the warmer months.

(13) New heating system, with zoned temperature control. Our present system is plagued with breakdowns which represent a recurring inconvenience and a chronic drain on our resources.

(14) The dampness and seepage in the lower floor area will be eliminated.

(15) The Sunday School area will be made more attractive and inviting. Its appearance will be one in which we can all take greater pride than at the present.

(16) A new and larger library space will be provided.

(17) New plumbing facilities, including addition of new tiled restrooms.

What is a Faith Commitment?

A faith commitment is a type of church pledge which is an agreement of conscience, rather than a legal document.

It is a plan of giving for 156 weeks whereby the donor works with his fellow church members in accomplishing splendid Christian objectives which will benefit all of us. The wording of the commitment card provides for the contingencies of loss of income, death or removal of membership; but this is the way we work together in Christian service.

Surely, every family can enter into such a plan. Let's make these agreements real "faith commitments" as we dare things great enough for God.

We have come to one of those rare occasions in the growth of the church when we can make our personal influence felt for maximum good.

Memorials

Gifts and pledges may be given as memorials in the new Educational Building. The Memorials Committee of the Church will issue information regarding establishment of memorials. Mrs. Lyman Ormond, Sr. is chairman of this committee. God's Holy Word assures us that if we do not bury our talents, but use them in His service , we will be blessed manifold.

The Dual Objective

$350,000 is the amount necessary to be pledged in order to complete the plans of our building committee for the new educational building (to be pledged over a 156 week period).

$100,000 is the amount to be pledged to meet the conference and mission obligations of our church and to cover the operating cost for 1968-69.

The dual objective of this Crusade offers the congregation an attainable goal plus a challenge to an extra margin of dedicated giving. Our previous record, plus a study of available resources, indicate that the church will achieve the combined goal of $450,000. For through the years this membership has committed itself to the future.

How You Make a Worthy Gift

ON A 156-WEEK BASIS

During the Crusade, every member and friend of Jarvis Memorial Methodist Church will be visited by fellow churchmen who will be prepared to discuss the entire program. During the visit you will be invited to make a faith commitment to the Crusade for Tomorrow.

The date of May 5 has been set for member visitation. More than 200 of our members will be giving of their time to the Crusade program, and will have made their pledges prior to their calling.

These are suggested ways of establishing your gift

Weekly Gifts	Total Gift
$50.00	$7,800
25.00	3,900
20.00	3,120
15.00	2,340
10.00	1,560
9.00	1,404
8.00	1,238
7.00	1,092
6.00	936
5.00	780
4.00	624
3.00	468

"OUR FUTURE IS NOW – BE A WITNESS FOR CHRIST"

CRUSADE LEADERSHIP

Dr. Thomas L. Williams, a member of the Department of Field Service and Finance of our Methodist Board of Missions, has been chosen to direct our Crusade. Dr. Williams is a Methodist minister, who has served leading churches in Tennessee and Virginia. We welcome him to Jarvis Memorial.

Where the Money will Go...

EDUCATIONAL BUILDING*

Heating, Air Conditioning, Electrical and Plumbing Contracts	$143,000
General Construction	132,000
Furnishings and Decor (includes new pianos, carpets, and furniture)	20,000

*Estimated Costs.

1968–69 CHURCH BUDGET*

Operating Costs, Conference and Mission Obligations (unchanged from 1967-68)	$100,000

*Recommended by Commission on Stewardship & Finance, but not yet adopted. Detailed 1967-68 budget will be available after its adoption by the Board of Stewards.

Crusade Calendar

SUNDAY, APRIL 21	11:00 A.M.	Morning Worship. Message by Dr. Williams, Crusade Director.
	6:00 P.M.	Crusade organization covered-dish supper.
	7:30 P.M.	Checking Conference in Sanctuary for entire Crusade organization.
MONDAY, APRIL 22	7:30 P.M.	Meeting of Executive Committee, Special Gifts Committee, Majors, and Captains.
SUNDAY, APRIL 28	11:00 A.M.	Morning Worship. Dr. Williams.
	6:00 P.M.	Campaign Supper for entire Crusade organization.
	7:00 P.M.	Coaching Conference (45-minute instructional period).
	7:45 P.M.	Assignment meeting.
THURSDAY, MAY 2	6:30 P.M.	Campaign dinner.
SUNDAY, MAY 5	11:00 A.M.	Morning Worship. Dr. Earley.
	12:30 P.M.	Luncheon. Solicitation teams.
	1:30 P.M.	Solicitation calls.

REPORT MEETINGS

SUNDAY, MAY 5	9:00 P.M.	Full attendance of Crusade teams is essential.
MONDAY, MAY 6	9:00 P.M.	Report meeting. Please, full attendance.
TUESDAY, MAY 7	9:00 P.M.	Report Meeting. Victory!

HARD WORK IS THE BRIDGE BETWEEN OUR WISHES AND THEIR FULFILLMENT.

Nine Reasons Why I Should Invest . . .

"OUR FUTURE IS NOW – BE A WITNESS FOR CHRIST"

1. THE NEED IS URGENT

Many of the repairs planned in this building program will correct water seepage problems which have plagued the church for years. A new terrazzo floor with waterproof membrane to be placed in the basement and exterior waterproofing and footing drains should correct these problems and give us better facilities within our present building.

2. THIS IS AN INVESTMENT IN OUR YOUTH

Most of the funds to be spent in this building program will be used for improvements in the Sunday School sections of our church. While this will give more comfortable facilities for adults, great emphasis is being placed on the Sunday School rooms and other areas used for youth activities. No church can survive without its young people. And there can be no better investment than in the spiritual education of our church's youth.

3. BETTER USE OF AVAILABLE SPACE

Jarvis Memorial is fortunate to have a spacious church facility centrally located in the downtown business area. However, this building program will mean that better use will be made of the space available within the present building. This is preferable to construction of an entirely new building to gain additional space.

4. NOW IS THE TIME

The time to remodel and redecorate is when such things are needed. The longer such a job is put off, the more expensive it becomes. What we propose to do is essential to the further progress of our church. The opportunity and need are immediately before us. We should not delay.

5. INCOME TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Realizing the importance of religious institutions, the government allows income tax deductions up to 30 percent. A dollar given for public welfare, through churches, accomplishes more for the good of

the nation than the same dollar paid in taxes. That is why it has been said. "Philanthropy is the highest form of patriotism."

6. MY STEWARDSHIP

We have in our hands the answer to the need. God owns everything. "The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof, the world, and they that dwell therein." Since God owns everything, we are simply "tenants," "lessees," "stewards," and that only for a time. We are obligated to "make all we can, save all we can, and give all we can." A gift to a cause like this is an investment in Christian character building, and its influence will last forever.

7. MY INFLUENCE

Giving is contagious. Sacrificial donations inspire other sacrificial gifts. Influence is greater than one might imagine. Therefore, let my response be enthusiastic, as it may determine the response of others.

8. IT IS OUR HERITAGE

Jarvis Memorial Methodist Church has in a sense been given to us by prior generations. It was founded nearly 200 years ago and many people have labored since to bring it to what it is today. We have a duty to build and improve what has been given to us so that future generations may receive the blessings of our church, as we have.

9. MEMORIALS

Contributors may wish to make a pledge to establish a memorial in the new Educational Building. Jarvis Memorial has been blessed with many great ministers, dedicated Christian workers and staff members, who have given of their particular talents in God's service. There are current and departed members of this church fellowship who have inspired us and cast sunlight to guide our way. Finally, there are members of our families to whom we can never fully repay our personal and spiritual debts. It is a source of never-ending comfort to honor and remember these Christian souls. As for ourselves, our true memorials are our deeds and the way we live our lives.

Faith of Our Fathers

1782 – A Methodist Society organized in Martinsborough (later incorporated as Greenville in 1787). This was two years before the Methodist Episcopal Church of the United States was organized in Lovely Lane Chapel, Baltimore.

1828 – Worship service of Greenville Methodists were conducted in the Academy, a two-story frame public building on the southeast corner of Greene and Second Streets.

1833 – St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal Church built two hundred feet west of the northwest corner of Pitt and Second Streets (present site of Cherry Hill Cemetery).

1836 – North Carolina Annual Methodist Conference organized.

1877 – New St. Paul's Church, built at southeast Corner of Greene and Second Streets.

1883 – St. Paul's designated a station appointment – no longer on a circuit. Membership 112.

1890 – North Carolina Annual Conference entertained by St. Paul's. Membership 200.

1907 – Jarvis Memorial built at the cost of $33,000. Consecrated on March 8.

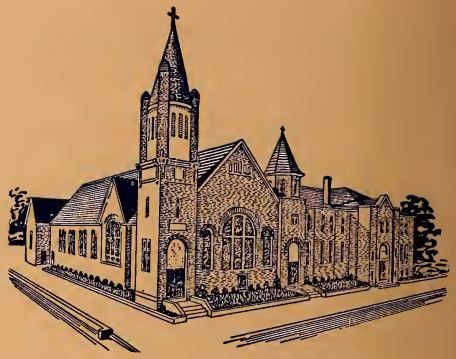
1917 – Jarvis Memorial dedicated.

1921 – Membership 700. Educational facilities expanded and modernized.

1952 – Membership 1800. Additional educational annex built.

1953 – Jarvis Memorial sponsored organization of St. James Methodist Church.

1957 – Sanctuary expanded and modified.



Through the years Jarvis Memorial has contributed outstanding leadership to the North Carolina Annual Conference. Many fine Methodist ministers have entered the service of God from the membership of this church. Jarvis Memorial has entertained the Annual Conference in 1917, 1931, 1948, 1956, and 1963. Since 1936, Jarvis Memorial has contributed liberal financial support to the Methodist Student Center serving East Carolina University. The names of hundreds of dedicated Christian souls have adorned the membership rolls of Jarvis Memorial. What this church is today we owe to them. What Jarvis Memorial is to be in the future will depend on us.

The following is the roll-call of those who have entered lifetime Christian service from this congregation: Rev. E.C. Glenn (1888), Miss Jennie Congleton (1919), Rev. Adrian E. Brown (1922), Rev. Lawrence A. Watts (1923), Miss Dora Kendall (1930), Rev. F. Barden Brandenburg (1927), Rev. J. Herbert Waldrop, Jr. (1951), Rev. Ralph L. Fleming (1953), Rev. Rufus H. Stark, III (1954), Rev. Ellis J. Bedsworth (1955), Rev. J. Rodney Fulcher (1959), Rev. James Warren (1960), Rev. C.R. Johnson (1966). May the future add many more to this list of honor.